

SENATOR BOHLKE: Madam President, members, my amendment really takes up a little bit from the discussion that Senator Landis had yesterday on the floor, reviewing a little bit of the history of the smoking policy that we had here in the Legislature. And really the agreement that I agree that we had, that we made and that we tried to, in a way, fashion an agreement that made it most acceptable to the people and, as Senator Landis said, recognizing that there are certain areas where we are trapped. And so what my amendment really does is deal with the vehicles, leaving in place the smoking ban in state vehicles because when you go to the pool and you get a state vehicle and you have to use that vehicle, in my mind, that's that trap situation that Senator Landis talked about. But it also allows...takes out the buildings and really focuses on the vehicles and that's pretty much...pretty much the amendment. It does leave in the section as far as the entrance to the buildings and that may be something that philosophically people may have some discussion if that's a trap situation or not, and that's not as major but I think that it makes sense that we recognize the agreement that I think we struck with a number of people and it allows for that to continue, but in the situations where people have allergies or reactions to smoke, certainly those leased vehicles, and not only that but the value of those vehicles when they turn around to sell them. And so I'll answer any questions and I ask you to support the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. The Chair recognizes Senator Preister.

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. I would speak to both Senator Landis and Senator Bohlke in this amendment in that any agreement that may have been made and that might seem to be reneged upon was only an agreement through the Rules Committee within this particular body. That agreement does not extend to the 17,000 plus state employees who are in buildings across the state. It was no agreement that was struck by the 80 percent of those 17,000 plus employees who choose to breathe smoke-free air. There was no agreement with all of those folks and we're not simply talking about the Legislative Chamber and the lounge for the Legislature. If that were the case, then perhaps there was an agreement. That was not the case. None of those employees were called in to make any kind of an agreement. Those people who have asthma, those people who